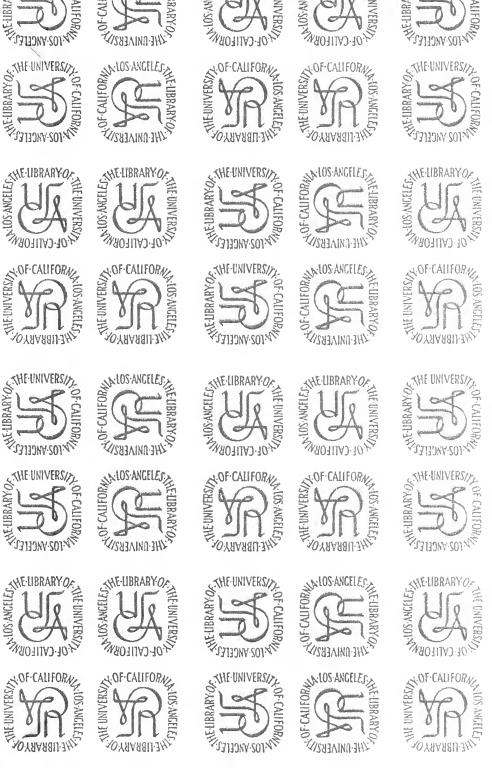
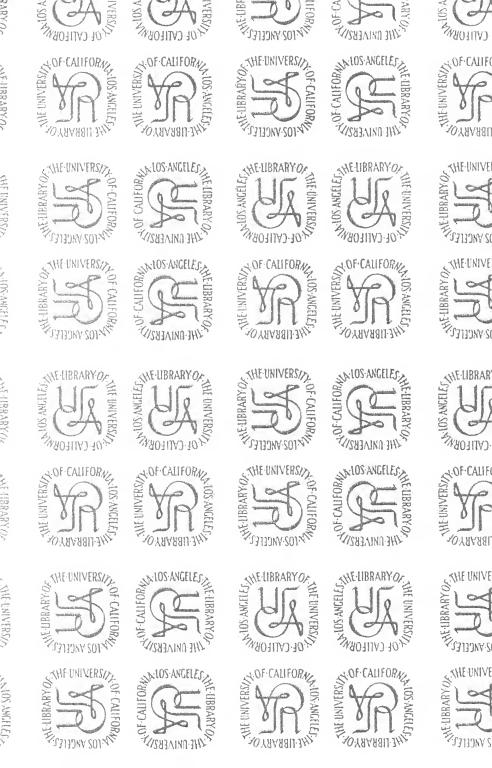


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# This edition is limited to 350 copies on handmade paper.

This is No. 225

## Poems by Arthur Upson & George Norton Northrop



EDMUND D. BROOKS
MINNEAPOLIS
MCMII



## 

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- II. A Song of Innocence G. N. N.
- III. Grieg's "Einsamer Wanderer" G. N. N.
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## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SAMOVAR CLUB





F old, with empty hands and slow,
The palmer sought the distant shrine
I swift to many altars go,
Another's hand in each of mine.



FOUND a little bobolink
Which had strayed from his mother's
nest;

He had not learned to fear and shrink When away from the brooding breast.

I held him gently with loving hand And he stroked my cheek with his bill, The while the motherbird shrieked, and fanned The air with a passionate will.

I met a ragged, sweetfaced child With great brown eyes of trust; She looked at me and softly smiled As her hand in mine she thrust.

A scowling crone put up her fist, With curses called the maid; The laughing child danced as she wist, By naught of threat dismayed.

Oh, the world is young and the world is old, But the world of youth for me! The old world's wise as a dream that is told: I would it were ageless and free!

## III.

### Grieg's "Einsamer Wanderer."



UT on the bleak abandoned moor

Begirt by shroud of stormclouds drear And black treetrunks decayed

and sere,

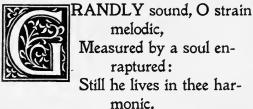
The wanderer, clad in garments poor, Bends on his wearied way.

Oft as he bows beneath the storm A mournful murmur breathes he low That mingles with the cutting snow And finds response in icemailed form Of oak, the winds' shrill prey.

But soon his plodding footsteps cease; The wanderer sinks beneath the blast; The murky pall of night is cast; The tempest shrieks; but he has peace Among the stars alway.

## IV.

Beethoven, Op. 31, No. 3.



In the spirit thou hast captured
From his lofty Godcommunion,
From his blessed worlddisunion.
He, by harsh sounds undisturbed,
Hears the music of the moonlight,
By no blatant earth perturbed
Feels the silence of the twilight.
Midst the choir of sounds celestial,
Thunderous of adoration,
Comes this calm rift reverential—
Michael sings in exaltation,
Clear and sweet and penitential.



IGHTLY the yielding keys, withdrawn in dream, she swept.

Along the ivoried length her fingers sought some strain,

Dear legacy from Schubert's soul, of notes that wept

And notes that smiled through tears that for long time had lain

And only waited to be freed.

My soul, borne down by discord's voice that smote it sore,

Forgot its burden, leapt to meet the world with mirth. Nor to the purple close of day did sorrow more A habitation find, where now new joy had birth And harmony had sovereign reign.

## VI.



HE music of thought is sad

Like song of a tremulous sea

When a shattered moon shimmers on
waves that were glad
In old Other Days with me.

The music of thought is sweet, From a haven we should have had— Homing and harbor for stonekissed feet: The music of thought is sad, But the music of thought is sweet!

Oh, tell me I never was thinking at all of you,
But only of some fair dream I had
When the music of thought was glad,
When spiced winds filtered the pipes o' morning
through!

The music of thought when of you I think
(This old fair dream of you!)
Like the fountain where bibulous nightingales drink,
Goes pulsing its pleasure
In strange, new measure,
Till it fails on the brink
And is sad
For the Other Days and the haven we should have had!

## VII.

TRAYING at morn beneath a budding tree

Round which the wildgrape wound its sinuous length,

A robin's song awoke new hope in me, A robin's song filled with the springtime strength. It was the voice of melody, And blended with my thoughts of thee.

At noon, the traffic roar continually Dinned in my ear, I trod the crowded street; A country child, her voice birdlike and free, Cried joyfully her flowers, dewbathed and sweet. It was the voice of melody, And blended with my thoughts of thee.

I stood at twilight by the heaving sea Near by a fisher's hamlet wrapped in haze. The mother to the babe upon her knee Sang slumbrous snatches of forgotten lays. It was the voice of melody, And blended with my thoughts of thee.

Morning, noon and night, sweet trinity! And lo, it was a day of melody!

## VIII.



WINDSWEPT music of the boughs! Thou singest many songs to me:

The sound of waters when the prows

Of stately ships put out to sea;
The rustling of a bird in flight
In magic, sunbathed Arcady;
The tinkling of far sheepbells light
In distant twilight melody,
Thou sing'st to me.
Sweeter than accents of the oak
That of oldtime to Jason spoke,
More heartful than all other strains
Thou sing'st in low monotony,
Are those dim, memoried refrains
She told to me
In ecstacy.
And so I woo the loitering breeze

And so I woo the loitering breeze
That whispers soft among the trees.

HOU gentle Sidney, sweetest singer
Risen from the sunloved
South!
In the night thy songs come

winging

Through the dark, like far bells ringing In young bridal ears.

Midst our native sounds orchestral Playing symphonies of poets, Thou the flutenote sweet arising Mellowthroated, harmonizing With our joys and tears.

Sounds divinely reminiscent Of old fancies sorrowfreighted, Resurrected at thy calling, Now like rain come gently falling Through the faded years.

Thou on earth an hour of heaven Mad'st in thought's deep harmony; And that hour has had no ending And ne'er will while sounds descending Find a soul that hears.

#### Ad Matrem.



NE stormy evening of the many spent Alone, we two, in fellowship most choice,

In mingled gas and firelight, with the blent,

Bright pleasure of your kindly look and voice, And many a dearing touch that makes a heart rejoice.

I looked some old books over while you read—Some shelved editions that had slumbered long, Yet none too calm because they felt the tread Of newer troops that charm with other song, A strange young legion subtile where the old were strong.

You read. Your low voice thridded on full fine My tuneful dream.—Have you not marveled oft To follow where some cord of gold did shine Through fabrics manyfigured, strange and soft? Even so your golden tone ran through those thoughts of mine!

It seems you read some nimble new romance Of modern love; but less the tale I heard Than the dear voice that gave it utterance: And less the sense than color of each word Taking some vivid hue as off your lips it stirred.

I fear to sketch that siren simile
Lest you, who know me well as plain, accuse
As too ambitious my unwinged muse—
That other, of your "path to Arcady
Paved in such soundmosaics, as Fancy's feet must
choose."

But who could keep to plain ways? I would tell More amply of the Colors that did fit Into your tranquil voice's soothing spell, And how the path wound on, and I with it, A winding gemset course to lure my errant wit.

I never heard such Colors were in Sound,
Such slips of Color woven in a tone;
I never knew, in all their mellow round,
Such ripe reds and such golds as there were shown.
And 'twas your voice that read else I had never known.

Look!—'tis a pale green word
And matched (let me see) with this,
Makes that rare old Genoavelvety sound:
Look Sharp: Sharp is red and the colors kiss.
I am sure that never was heard
A sweeter, more delicate music the world around!

Old red, like folds of plush one sees
Stripped from some gorgeous palace or church
And hung from their perch
In the rich, dim, crimsongold shops of the Genoese;
Or like the queer, faded corals they show to you
(In green satin caskets, too!)
Mounted with infinite cunning in filigrees.

And the green —
Just about the same lightletting sheen
As the wonderful chalice at San Lorenzo's shrine
From one kingemerald cut (Oh, with red wine
Shimmering in it!) and brought
Out of Levantine lands wherein 'twas wrought,
Through want and loss
By some knight of the Cross.

So, then, thin emerald and old red—And the ears and eyes of Fancy were richly fed! Long velvety folds outshook
Over a muffled harp:
Look

Sharp.

Brink is old rose.

He declares himself all over the gobelin hangings; He is slender and rather grows Lengthwise out of his clothes, And his tone is like twangings Of a distant 'cello not played on yet, But struck, after tuning, G shorp, I should think.

He is nervous; yet very calm
Is his sisterword, *From*,
Who is chestnut in color and never has learned to forget;

And she says, with her hand in his, "Brink, We are oldrose and chestnutbrown, And we walk this tapestry down, up and down, Till we make him smile to think Of hair he knew And roses that twined it through."

Survive.

Pearlpink, like ladies' fingertips That wave farewell. Or the enamel of some sounding shell That still where go strange ships Beside a lonely shore Its old sad tale into your ear will pour Of Nevermore.

IV.

Hallucinate.

"I am a crystal turning. In me are whirled All the enchantments of the Colorworld. Writhing, coiling, burning. Yet am I wholly blue (Hallu=) And most skylike all through. But if you wait You see a million melted rainbows there. (=Cinate), Hue over hue Unwinding in the air Within my globe, that do articulate Little unheardof songs and scraps of tune To ears that love old music in the moon," Now.

"I creep to thy arms, dear Then,
For there's naught in woman's ken
So dear, so dear as thou
To thy small, white bride named Now.
And have all thy brides been fair
With white gowns, silk, like mine,
And little mouths, red like mine,
And a rose or two in the hair?

"First tell me, handsome Then,
Of all that have passed by the name I bear,
Of all thy brides, have any been quite so fair?
Now swear to me, swear!

"'None!' of course—like all you men.
But I must believe you when
You say it so gravely as doubtless your little white brides,

Womanlike, for ages have done and thanked you, like me, besides!"

Stain.

Drenched in her streaming hair
Against the sunset on the terracestair,
Beside a tearosetree
Sat she.
And something in her eyes,
Whether of regret
Or strangled memories
That were not quite dead yet—
Oh, something in her eyes
Would not look up at me!

She smiled. And I thought, "Once more She smiles for me!"

But 'twas only the common smile she wore
For the pale tearosetree
That seemed to leap and run
Along the terracestair
Up to the orange sun,
Up to her redgold hair:
The smile she wore was one that did remain,
As she turned her face on me,
From the pale tearosetree
And the sunset's spreading stain.



HAVE seen cathedral windows,
Rich and glorious, softly
burning
And the saints within them
trembling

At the organ's solemn tone; I have read the ancient rubrics With their hues undimmed remaining, Hues that help, when slow lips falter, With sweet prayers of their own.

I have haunted halls enchanted,
Halls with tapestries resplendent
And high dreams of painting poets
Wrought for kings and sons of kings;
And I've gazed when daydeath glory
In historic mountainplaces
Caught and changed the clouds of autumn
Into gorgeous curtainings.

At red roses I have wondered When, within some wellloved bosom They their tender faces bury And breathe sweetly on the air; And I've marked in dimeyed marvel, Where the violins were wailing, Lips and cheeks of lovely women, And the shadows in their hair.

## XII.

I.

#### The Poet.



HAVE been dead and under the sod so long!
Oh, to break forth, arise,
Resume the song,
And just be again beneath the old blue skies!

II.

#### The Soldier.

'Tis weary here waiting alone!
This darkness is deaf and dumb,
And I lie here like a stone.
Above is there yet some light?
Do the highways hum?
Here never a glimmer and never a sound hath come—

Save once a drum
Of soldiers that went to fight!
O God! to swing off with them,
Faring afoot with them,
On to the charge and the glory of War!
Or to gallop ahead of them,
Victorysped of them—
That were worth waiting and suffering for!

Never again,
O Marching Men,
Shall we shout together the songs of camp!
No banner can beck, no bright sword flash and wave
Here in the grave,
In the grave that is dark and damp.
—That were worth all, did I think, did I say?
All save their forgetting! But he is a knave
That will drain his draught and grumble that he must pay!

Ш.

#### The Priest.

How long is it now, I wonder—
A thousand years, at least,
Here the dark vault under,
Feet to the east,
Supposed to be Paradisewalking, a purgèd priest!
Well, none of them see me, thank heaven,
As they pass me here on the hill—
So long as they live they're shriven
And when they come here—they are still.

## XIII.



LOITERED through the streets at dead of night;

No sound, save rustling of a few dead leaves

Against a gnarlèd oaktree's rugged limb.

Yet this was music sweeter far for me Than sound of lute or loftypealing hymn Sung in proud notes of splendid jubilee.

I walked the shore alone, when winter skies
Hung moody, frowning o'er the sea's gray waste;
I was alone, the wind was biting chill,
And still the lapping of the cold, green wave
Gave my soul's hungering its better fill
Than voice of priestly men in vaulted nave.

## XIV.



IM years aback the Wise
Men, sped
By one bright star that
sent its light
Propitious of new life, and
lead

By prophecy of Holy Night, Journeyed to mild Mary's son.

Go out into the night, and thou, If wise, wilt find 'neath starlit skies A thousand shrines at which to bow, A manger where the Christchild lies In every earthborn twig and shrub.

## XV.

HEN thou to Nature goest From off thine eyelids shake The cobwebs of thy learning; The spectacles that boast Deep insight, quickly take

From hindering thy discerning.

Then thou more shapes mayst see In every stone and tree Than old Polonius, everwise, Found in the cloud that flecked the skies.

## XVI.



HERE is a shallow optimism
abroad
That will see naught but
comedy; from gray
And duller tones of life it
turns away

To live upon its laughter, thanking God. There is an Optimism that is awed At the tragedy of life, but knows the play Grandly conceived, and will unwincing stay The plot to study and the piece applaud.

## XVII.

HY doth devising man so often make

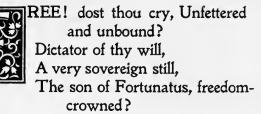
An eager end of what should merely be

The humble framework of his destiny!

Why, when the poet into song would break, Doth he within the ardor of his rime Forget the burden of his song sublime!

When he who limns fair woman, ardent, tries To paint red lips and dusky twilight hair, Why leaves he out the soul divinely fair That smiles behind those deepset gentian eyes! Answer me this, thou transient Muse of mine, And I will tell why man is not divine.

## XVIII.



O foolish wight! Thou yet must suffer pain. Whoe'er by doubt is held,
By any secret ill propelled,
Is dungeoned round by worser cares
And more a subject for our prayers
Than servile Ethiop bound by copper chain.

## XIX.



WELLBRED but ingenuous rose
Did once unclose
Upon a morning in my bushes here
'Neath where you lean in this old
belvedere.

You have no fancy now
For allegories?—How
Do you who have so many lovers know
Which to cut short when all are prompted so
By eyes and lips and hair
To read their meaning in the things less fair?

However, you must hear
How this my rose unfolding on the year
And to have been supreme,
As I did dream,
Drooped soon and died
Of her own folly in this gardenside.

(There, crush that cheek again and let your eye From out along the paths that townward lie—I know its speech
Well as I know the heart I fain would reach!)

A flattering and sophisticated bee And a plain beetle joined in rivalry For the red rose; and both— But with how different aims!—beheld her growth. The noisy bee came sauntering by And, with much talk, an ogling eye And wily pretense, drained unknown to her The heart where naïveté and sweetness were. Then off he sped, A hundred other conquests in his head.

The clumsy beetle climbed o'er many a thorn Arriving somewhat later in the morn.
To seek her heart he sued
And steadily his passion's plea renewed.
He was persistent doubtless and
Perhaps did stand
Too long upon one petal, though
He meant well so;
But, anyhow, she sharply bade him go.

The next I saw of her she lay
Wide to the day
Against the paling there,
Unmissed her sweetness stolen—but one fair,
Soft petal rumpled which she died
Thinking on, sick and mortified.

L

Lilli Lehmann sang Isoldes Liebestod.



BLUR of sunsetred was in her tone That sank in beauty where the waves were sheen—

An evertwilit sea whose pallors shone Strangely along redridden wash of green.

II.

Ernestine Schumann-Heink sang Ortrud.
(Weil eine Stund' ich meines Werths vergessen)

Blazed through the dark that orange voice of hers—Fire behind where, firmmeshed, the grille upgrew Of horn and drum and viol, barriers
My clinging soul, unscorched, peers safely through.

III.

Emma Calvé sang Carmen.
(Le ciel ouvert, la vie errante)

Too yellow all these lights and those gilt things Theatric morethanyellow. Oh, be dim, Gay world, and let our ears see! Lo, she sings In primrosesamite of the seraphim. Johanna Gadski sang Elisabeth.
(Mach dass ich rein und engelgleich)

In every simple Maytime, all the light Reflectable nuances of a seafloored noon, See I such tones of green; but best, fullnight, When through my garden looks the dreamy moon.

v.

Nellie Melba sang Violetta. (Ah, fors' e lui che l'anima)

Skies are thought blue, and blossomchalices Brimmed with May rain.—But only certain eyes Can mate the veryblue that music is And it alone such blueness melodize.

VI.

Lillian Nordica sang Leonora. (Mira, di acerbe lagrime)

One pale lamp swayed within a richhung hall; Fair folk swung by in tapestries arow, Sad, rhythmic, ever in pairs. And under all Went long, smooth, shadowy floors of indigo.

VII.

Emma Eames sang Elsa.
(O fand ich Jubelweisen)

And I am little again, and it is spring! The violets by the mossy rock are wet. 'Tis nothing strange that violets can sing, Nor aught that song is only violet.

## XXI.

OULDST be like Enoch, O aspiring one?

Forget thyself, and straight there will

arise
A glorious son, divine, to walk and run
With God, deep gladness in his eyes.

#### XXII.

I.

Our Maker let no thought of Calvary

Trouble the morning stars in their first song.

-W. B. Yeats.



ND in a blessèd mist looked Mary's eyes

That daylong over Jesus gently smiled; Old tender Galilean Iullabies Sang she, untroubled, to a happy child.

II.

Wisdom is oft-times nearer
When we stoop than when we soar.

— Wordsworth.

-worasworth.

So did our Master stoop, nor held All Israel's patriarch line, Godcrowned, Like to that simple child profound He took to his heart in days of eld.

## XXIII.

It's poor wark tay-drinkin' when you have it all to yourself.

—Jane Barlow.



OME, good comrades, join me where The Urn our spirits may repair; Drink a cup to friends afar Tonight from my old samovar!

Not tonight? Ah, well, the storm **Does** make one's own hearth more warm And I blame you not for this Homely, sluggish, fireside bliss.

(So alone my course I took Crosslots to my inglenook. Cheer in light and fire I sought To outweigh my winter thought. There I brewed such cups of tea As never so ambrosially Fed a chamber's air upon Soothing odors of Ceylon.)

Ha, good Bookshelf! though the night Hath such power old friends to fright, I'll have Company to tea
Such as thou canst offer me.
Though the wet wind at my pane
Wail a dirge, 'twill be in vain!—
Come, ye unrheumatic crew,
We shall have a merry brew!

Long ago in weather bleak
Learnt I first your charms to seek,
Bent o'er many a moldy page
Of Cervantes or Le Sage,
In a chair so big I felt
Somewhat like the kingly Celt
Who, they say, in times agone
Had a mountain for a throne.
—Of Le Sage? Ah, nights were those,
Poring o'er that relished prose,
Nights were those of wine and honey,
Blithe Gil Blas of Santillane!

Elia, in thy gold & green, None too often art thou seen At my table friendliwise With thy gentle, quizzing eyes. Come! with Bridget too, dear soul! You shall talk me sane and whole-It's a cleanhearthed room and that'll Just be suiting Sarah Battle. There, Vasari! don't you think That I catch your friendly wink? I daresay you've tales in store For this night and many more: Botticelli's balanced stone. Or how Biagio did atone In a painted hell brought low For criticising Angelo.

Who comes now?—And shall I ask Omar with his rosewreathed flask? Or, more moral and less vinous. Aphoristic Antoninus? Six red volumes—scarce amiss, Boswell-of-Affleck is this! But ere I invite thee down With thy gossip of the Town, Thy Illustrious Friend with thee, Talking thunder, guzzling tea, I'll insure my samovar Against lightning, hail and war. (Nay, if he gets stormy I'll Merely close the book and smile: None, in life, could snub so well The obstreperous Samuel!)

—Songs I hear of Rosaleen,
The winding Erne and sad Cathleen:
'Tis the bards at Erin's gates,
Mangan, Allingham and Yeats.
—Addison? Yes, Sir Roger's quite
A pleasant, overdue old Knight
Who shall tell me of the Play
And his Spring Garden Holiday.
Here's society for him:
Cranford ladies, capped and prim,
Whom the aromatic steam
Must draw down to me 'twould seem!

There's Lavengro o'er the ingle;
From his forge in Mumpers' Dingle
He shall toste the drink I brewed
In my firelight solitude.
And, above, Immortal Cynic
From whose eye a ray actinic
Dries, e'en as it falls, the briny
Teardrop, thou shalt sing, O Heine!
And thy neighbor, clad in red
With a gilt crown on his head?
Ah, De Quincey! He must come,
Drink, and muse on opium.

Sweet, sweet days beneath the dim Worcester oaks I've dwelt with him; Up and down in Oxfordstreet I've saddened for his weary feet; Mornings have I softly gone In St. Cuthbert's holy lawn Where, 'tis marked, De Quincey stays Through these shifting nights and days.

. . . . . .

Tea alone?—O good old Shelf Not while thou'rt thy ample self! Not till some preposterous day When thy tenants turn away To some Secondhander hoary Who keeps Twelvemo Purgatory! And by then, all things that are, Roseinvase and samovar, Friendship, fire and fragrant tea, Shall have had their hour with me

## XXIV.



FT gaze we on the chronicle of lands By some stern tyrant's bolt of woe deepriven,

Tortured and slain; the remnant strangeward driven

From their sweet homes by the unkind demands Of heathen hate. But still there silent stands The momentary sigh, which hard has striven To cross its trembling lintel, and soon shriven Of woe at some light joy our heart expands. If but our feeble housedog moaning dies There broods a cleaving sorrow in us long; Keep back as best we may the tears that rise They shed themselves e'en in our gladsome song. Our world is bounded by the things we touch; And shall we not give thanks that it is such!

## XXV.



FT have I stood behind the arrasfold And seen the mockery of its painted show,

Gazed on its puppets, striving to bestow Their lofty lines, while, in truth's accents told,

Their shallow hearts beat quicker as there rolled The plaudits of a pit, fired high and low By semblance;—which behind the mask did grow Feeble and sickening to my sense to hold. So must we puppets seem to lofty minds Who gaze behind the curtain of life's play, Unduped by actions, as our motives, low. Small wonder they their pitying tears let flow Who strive to clothe us in our true array And give the cue to Truth which Wisdom finds.

#### XXVI.



SILENCE in the hurrying roar;
The hushed street pauses, mute
to con
You fluttering thing upon the door,
Emblem of a white passing on.

The world must droop its sordid eyes At times lest they grow fixed and chill. Oft when the ground in fever lies Then come from heaven the raindrops still.

## XXVII.

To Edward Rowland Sill.



With departing day's new hope
For the morrow, and the
praising
Of the wind is on the slope,

As my eyes toward the Pacific Turn in wonder never dim, I behold a form deific Outlined on the golden rim.

There Ionian Venus stands, Stately, sacred Beauty's queen, And below with outstretched hands With a longing pure, serene,

Thou her worshiper indeed, Minstrel of her during charms, Thou from lower bondage freed, Honor's faithful Man at Arms.

# XXVIII.



HE Druidoak, deepgnarled and bent Lifts up his arms on high: We raise our hands with good intent But still we grow awry.

## XXIX.



HE wood burns low
My heart's desire
A holier fire
Doth grow.

The ember dies: The inner hope To greater scope Doth rise.

The spark hath gone: But from above Diviner love Doth dawn.

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